under the broad objectives of the Central Pool, it was not found feasible to support it from the Pool.

The proposal envisages partial funding from the contribution(s) to be made by members of Parliament of the North Eastern Region from the funds available under Member of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLADS). The existing guidelines on MPLADS do not permit the same. The proposal has, therefore, been submitted to the Committees on MPLADS of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha for consideration.

Exclusion of Kutch from Border Development Scheme

†1340. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that the Kutch District of Gujarat, which is situated on the Indo-Pak border area, has been excluded from the Border Area Development Programme;

(b) if so, the steps taken by Government to include this district under the Border Area Development Programme; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefore?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) Border Area Development Programme covers all border blocks in the country which have an international land border only. Bhuj, Lakhpat, Mandvi, Abdasa, Bhachau and Rapar blocks of Kutch district are covered under Border Area Development Programme, since they have an international *land* border. Blocks of Kutch district which have only a sea border are not covered under the Border Area Development Programme.

(b) and (c) No steps are being taken to include other blocks of Kutch district under the Border Area Development Programme (BADP) since they do not fall within the parameters

† Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

and criteria of the BADP, i.e. they do not have an international land border.

Corruption in Human Resource Research Institute

†1341. SHRI BAL KAVI BAIRAGI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether CBI is conducting an enquiry into the cases of irregularities/corruption prevalent in Human Resource Research Institute (Planning Commission), IP Estate, Mahatama Gandhi Marg, New Delhi; and

(b) if so, the details of the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING (SHRI ARUN SHOURIE): (a) There is no institute in the name of Human Resource Research Institute under Planning Commission. However, there is one Institute by the name of Institute of Applied Manpower Research (IAMR) under the administrative control of the Planning Commission. Planning Commission has not recieved any reference from Central Bureau of Investigation for probe into the irregularities/corruption in the Institute of Applied Manpower Research.

(b) Does not arise.

BPL Population in Rural Areas

1342. SHRI BACHANI LEKHRAJ: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the percentage of rural population living Below Poverty Line at present in Gujarat;

(b) the comparison with other States as well as nation as a whole; and

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† Original notice of the Question was received in Hindi.